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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

12 AUG 1982

The Honorable John W. Warner
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Warner:

Thank you for your letter of 28 July expressing your concerns regarding the Department of Energy's plan to staff their Forrestal Message Center with contractor employees. We, too, are concerned.

I have accordingly noted these concerns to Secretary Edwards, advising him that we plan to take a look at other appropriate channels for getting intelligence information to his Department. Using couriers would be one possibility. We also explained to Secretary Edwards that we would regret the resulting time delays, but security requirements dictate that we not expose such a wide range of intelligence information to contractor personnel.

Sincerely,


John N. McMahon
Acting Director

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

12 AUG 1982

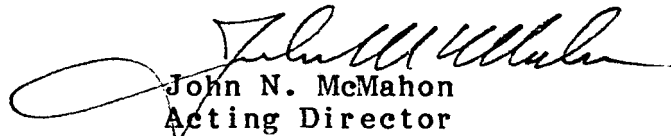
The Honorable Sam Nunn
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nunn:

Thank you for your letter of 23 July expressing your concerns regarding the Department of Energy's plan to staff their Forrestal Message Center with contractor employees. We, too, are concerned.

I have accordingly noted these concerns to Secretary Edwards, advising him that we plan to take a look at other appropriate channels for getting intelligence information to his Department. Using couriers would be one possibility. We also explained to Secretary Edwards that we would regret the resulting time delays, but security requirements dictate that we not expose such a wide range of intelligence information to contractor personnel.

Sincerely,



John N. McMahon
Acting Director

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

12 AUG 1982


The Honorable Barry M. Goldwater
Chairman, Select Committee on
Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of 2 August expressing your concerns regarding the Department of Energy's plan to staff their Forrestal Message Center with contractor employees. We, too, are concerned.

I have accordingly noted these concerns to Secretary Edwards, advising him that we plan to take a look at other appropriate channels for getting intelligence information to his Department. Using couriers would be one possibility. We also explained to Secretary Edwards that we would regret the resulting time delays, but security requirements dictate that we not expose such a wide range of intelligence information to contractor personnel.

Sincerely,



John N. McMahon
Acting Director

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

12 AUG 1982

The Honorable James B. Edwards
The Secretary of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It has come to my attention that the Department of Energy intends to have the Forrestal Message Center, which handles classified and compartmented messages from several intelligence agencies, operated by a private sector contracting firm,

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This has raised concerns within the Intelligence Community about retaining the necessary security protection for the wide range of sensitive intelligence provided to your Department. We have even received several Congressional inquiries on this subject.

We accordingly plan to take a look at other appropriate channels for getting intelligence information to you. Using couriers would be one possibility. I regret the time delays this may cause, but security requirements dictate that we not expose this wide a range of intelligence information to contractor personnel.

Sincerely,



John N. McMahon
Acting Director